

The authors capitalize on their newly-discovered perfluoroalkyl ether carboxylates and share insight into the fate of the PFECAs in drinking water and in drinking water treatment. The authors present the first study that examines sorption of the PFECAs to PAC and the removal of the PFECAs during drinking water treatment. The high standards for novelty and significance, as well as technical quality, in Environmental Science & Technology Letters, are met.

- 1) Comment on the room temperature storage conditions and how the authors confirmed that loss of analyte to the vial during storage was negligible.
- 2) How do the authors know that loss from the batch reactors during adsorption experiments was due to the PAC rather than partitioning to the vial? The reviewer has observed significant loss from the aqueous phase to vial walls during sorption experiments under certain conditions.
- 3) How do the authors control for loss during LC-MS/MS analysis? Long-chained PFASs are known to be at the air-water interface or on the vial walls during aqueous phase direct injection.
- 4) Line 30 and throughout: PFASs stand for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. Change to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) or use perfluoroalkyl substances throughout.
- 5) Lines 103-112: State the fraction or percentage of methanol added to each batch reactor when the legacy PFASs are added at 1000 ng/L. A high fraction of methanol can greatly impact partitioning to PAC and other media.
- 6) Line 118: Use nmol/L to compare species rather than ng/L since each analyte has a different molecular weight and is therefore not directly comparable.
- 7) Line 120: State whether the number of carbons corresponds to fluorinated or total since the fluorinated carbons and total carbons are not the same for the PFCAs.
- 8) The discussion using both mean and median is distracting. Either the median has utility, and should be explained, or omit the median from the discussion.
- 9) Line 166: change units to ng/L (typo?)
- 10) For Fig. 2b, consider assuming equal molar response for all PFECAs and compute concentrations, accounting for differences in molecular weight, using calibration for PFPrOPrA. Equal molar response assumptions have been used in the quantification of PFASs in the literature. Concentrations have more meaning than area counts. If area counts must be used, demonstrate that concentrations are proportional to area counts.
- 11) Lines 183-184: Keep this sentence with the discussion of the 100 mg/L PAC dose rather than switching between doses.
- 12) Line 218: Change to “PFOA, **for** which it is replacing...”
- 13) Lines 226-228: Move to the discussion about Community C for better flow.